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FAX MESSAGE**To:** Office of International
Corporation Finance, SEC**Date:** 14 March, 2002

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At: 001 202 942 96 24**Ref:** Stock Exchange Announcement**From:** Eileen Baker**No. of pages** (incl. this one)

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Message:

Please find the following Stock Exchange Announcement/s sent out recently.

Regards

Eileen Baker

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14 March 2002

Luminus grows customer base in Belgium

Centrica plc has today announced that its Belgian joint venture Luminus, has reached agreement to acquire the electricity customers of four Belgian municipal utilities. The 24,000 customers, who are currently supplied by the towns of Izegem, Essen, Vorselaar and by Antwerp Harbour will transfer to Luminus in stages as the Flemish electricity markets open by 1 July 2003, the scheduled start date for residential market opening.

The acquisition, for a total consideration of 7.6m Euros (c£4.7million) in cash includes residential, commercial and industrial customers. This will give Luminus a combined customer base of nearly 800,000 customer accounts at market opening.

Simon Lewis, Centrica's Managing Director, Europe, said: "This is part of our strategy to build a significant customer base in Belgium and we now have a good platform to expand our market share throughout Benelux."

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Notes:

1. In June 2001, Centrica announced its purchase of a 50 per cent share in energy supply business Luminus N.V., established with a consortium of Flemish municipal utilities led by Interelectra and WVEM. Further details can be obtained from the news section of the Centrica website, www.centrica.com
2. The Belgian energy market is opening in stages. The last two stages of electricity deregulation in Flanders are the opening of the small and medium enterprise market in January 2003 and the residential market in July 2003.